



2024

TrailLink Unlimited



Guides



**Minuteman
Commuter
Bikeway**
Massachusetts



Minuteman Commuter Bikeway

Massachusetts

Overview For many commuters, the Minuteman Commuter Bikeway provides freedom from congested traffic in the northwest



Overview

For many commuters, the Minuteman Commuter Bikeway provides freedom from congested traffic in the northwest Boston suburbs. For others, the 10.1-mile paved trail between Cambridge and Bedford serves as a historical route through the opening salvos of the American Revolution. The rail trail roughly traces Paul Revere's midnight ride in April 1775 to warn local militias about advancing British troops. Today, it connects a rapid transit station in Cambridge with Arlington, Lexington, and Bedford.

The trail can be congested with bicyclists during morning and evening commutes and with pedestrians on weekends and lunch hours. Local laws require that

bicyclists dismount when using sidewalks in city centers. Restaurants, pubs, markets, and bike shops are located close to the path.

About the Route

The trail leaves off from its northern endpoint in Bedford, right near a vintage Train Depot and freight house that features a restored passenger rail car. This first section of trail in Bedford runs through wooded corridors and quiet neighborhoods for the northernmost 3.7 miles. The trail passes closely by the Lexington Visitor Center and the Lexington Battle Green, where minutemen resisted the British.

More revolutionary history abounds on the trail as the route passes the 183-acre Great Meadows and Tower Park picnic grounds, both sites of revolutionary battles, as well as the Munroe Tavern, a former wartime headquarters.

South of here in Arlington Center, there is a short on-road section of trail 1.5 miles north of the southern endpoint. Here, follow the signs, bike lanes, and pedestrian signals to cross Mystic Street/MA 60, Massachusetts Avenue/US 3, and Swan Place to regain the bikeway on the south side of the intersection.

Just before reaching the southern end of the trail at the Alewife MBTA Station, the trail passes through the Alewife Linear Park (which heads east towards Somerville and the Fitchburg Cutoff Path.

Connections

At the trail's northern endpoint in Bedford, connection is available to the [Narrow-Gauge Rail-Trail](#).

At the trail's southern end, trail users can connect to the [Mass Central Rail Trail](#).



Minuteman Commuter Bikeway

Massachusetts

States: Massachusetts

Counties: Middlesex

Length: 10.1miles

Trail end points: South Road (Bedford) to
Alewife MBTA Station (West Cambridge)

Trail surfaces: Asphalt

Trail category: Rail-Trail

Trail activities: Bike, Inline

Skating, Wheelchair Accessible, Walking, Cross
Country Skiing

Parking & Trail Access

The Minuteman Commuter Bikeway runs between South Road (Bedford) and Alewife MBTA Station (West Cambridge), with parking at both ends.

Parking is also available at:

- 25 Drake Rd (Arlington)
- Arlington Recreation Department, 422 Summer St (Arlington)
- Spy Pond Park, 56 Pond Ln (Arlington)

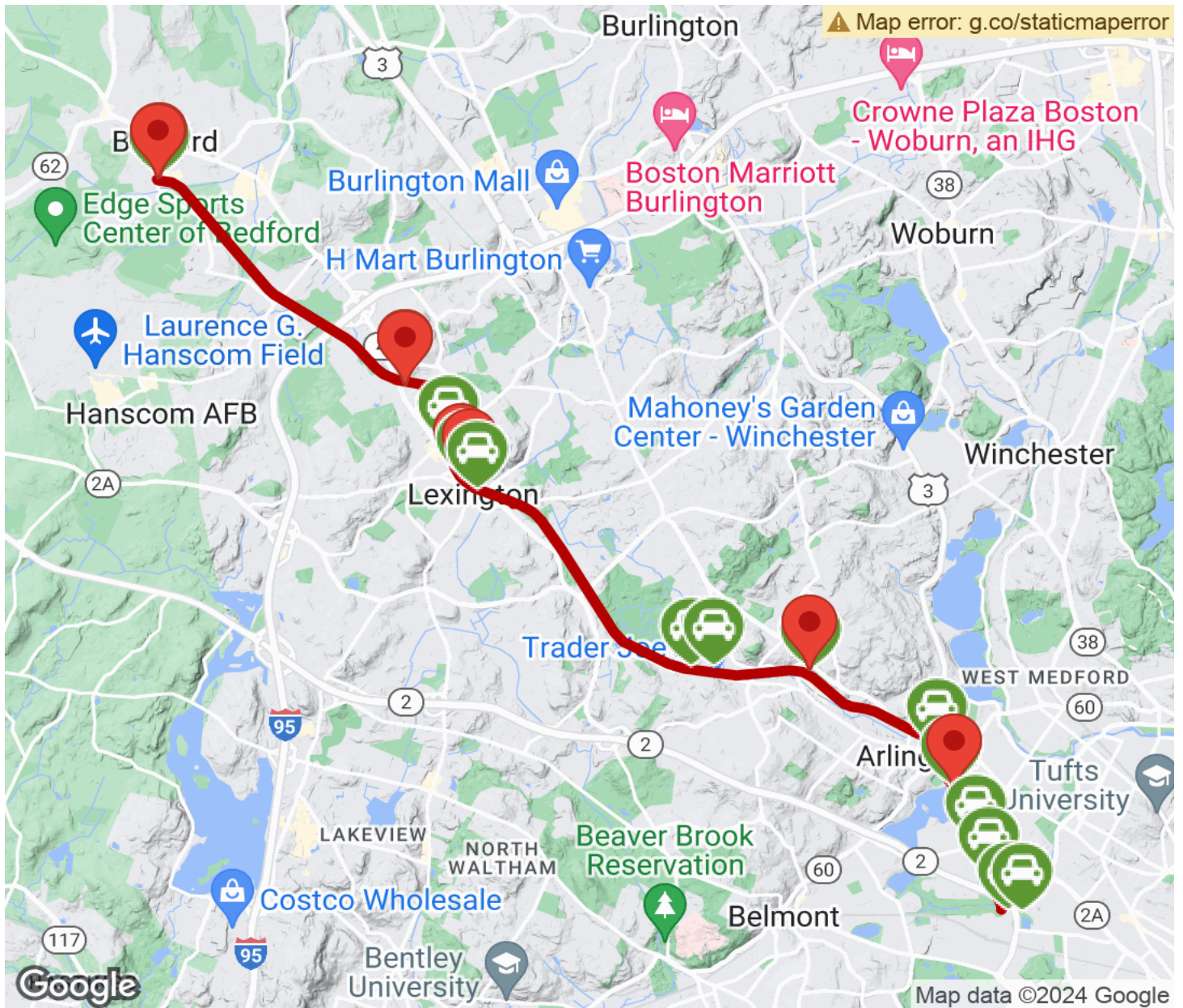
The Minuteman Commuter Bikeway is accessible via the MBTA. At the Alewife Station, there is a Blue Bikes bikeshare station.

Please see [TrailLink Map](#) for all parking options and detailed directions.



Minuteman Commuter Bikeway

Massachusetts



Trailhead



Restroom



Parking



Water Fountain



Tunnel



TrailLink
by Rails-to-Trails Conservancy

TrailLink.com